

REBUILD SUPPORT SERVICE FACTSHEET

Rebuilding after a bushfire is a big job. Everybody has different circumstances and will make different choices, and that's okay. We know that not everyone wants to rebuild straight away, and it is important that support is available when people need it.

THE REBUILD SUPPORT SERVICE (RSS)

The RSS is a free one-stop-shop that provides support to people who are rebuilding. It has been designed for you to access at any stage of your rebuild. The RSS is delivered by East Gippsland Shire Council and Towong Shire Council and can offer you access to:

- Dedicated planning and permit information, support, and legal advice.
- Advice from building experts.
- Information on financial assistance options.
- Other services you may be eligible for.

To get started, contact your Rebuild Support Service.

East Gippsland Shire

www.eastgippsland.vic.gov.au/Bushfire_information
(03) 5153 9500

Towong Shire

www.towong.vic.gov.au (select 'Upper Murray Fires 2020')
1800 518 222.

View the *Rebuild Support Service factsheet* for more information.

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THE REBUILD PROCESS

CONCEPT

Your site is cleaned up. You can access the property and start making plans.

PERMITS

Planning and building permits are essential prior to construction.

CONSTRUCTION

Your rebuild begins with construction, mandatory inspections at key stages and ends with an occupancy permit.

COMPLETION

Once the occupancy permit is issued, it's time to move into your new home.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR REBUILDING

Even where the rebuilding process is straight forward, there are a lot of things to consider and decisions to make.

- Design resilience – there are benefits in adopting simple designs that can stand up to natural disasters.
- Energy efficiency – any new homes need to meet the 6-star energy efficiency rating under the National Construction Code.
- Bushfire protection – any new homes need to incorporate measures in their design in accordance with AS 3959 Construction of Buildings in Bushfire Prone Areas.
- Location – the best way to minimise bushfire risk is to site buildings away from identified hazards.
- Building structure – there are different approaches to construction to consider, like a traditional house built on-site, or a modular house which is built elsewhere and trucked to the site.
- Landscaping and site treatments – in bushfire-prone areas it's important to think about landscaping to reduce the potential risk to your new home.

The rebuilding journey can be overwhelming

If you would like to talk to someone about this, Recovery Support Workers are here to listen and link you to experts who can help.

To talk to someone today, call **1800 560 760**, or visit your local recovery Hub. To find your hub online and check opening hours visit: brv.vic.gov.au/community-recovery-hubs



Did you know?

You can access a free Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) assessment.

You will need a bushfire hazards assessment to progress your rebuild.

BRV has worked with your local council and Country Fire Authority (CFA) to prepare preliminary bushfire hazards assessments for all properties with a home destroyed in the 2019-20 bushfires.

You can get a copy of your preliminary BAL assessment by making an appointment with the Rebuild Support Service.

Contact your RSS today.